

## COMPLETING THE SQUARE

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It is possible to take any quadratic equation, create a perfect square trinomial, and solve it in a similar way. This method is called **completing the square**.

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|----|---|
| 1. | <b>REWRITE</b> as $ax^2 + bx = c$   |
| 2. | <b>DIVIDE</b> both sides by " <b>a</b> " (leading coefficient) so it becomes $x^2 + bx = c$                                       |
| 3. | <b>COMPLETE THE SQUARE</b> by taking half of b, square it, and add it to both sides of the equation.                              |
| 4. | <b>FACTOR</b> the perfect square  |
| 5. | Take the <b>SQUARE ROOT</b> of both sides. This will create 2 cases because a square root has both a positive and negative value. |
| 6. | <b>SOLVE</b> both equations. SIMPLIFY all irrational and complex answers  |

**Directions:** Solve each quadratic equation below by completing the square

1.  $x^2 - 18x + 56 = 0$

Solution:

2.  $2x^2 - 16x = -30$

Solution:

3.  $x^2 + 16x - 21 = -5$

Solution:

4.  $3x^2 - 30x = 69$

Solution:

5.  $x^2 + 12x + 43 = 0$

Solution

6.  $4x^2 + 76 = 16$

Solution